Daniel (Dan) Tom Honolulu, Hawaii

I grew up in the small town of Wahiawa, Hawaii which laid claim to the title, the "Pineapple Capital of the World." There were still pineapple fields within the town limits then and within walking distance of my home. Except for a trip to the mainland US with my parents at the age of 5, which I only vaguely remember, I had never left Hawaii until I traveled the 5,000 miles to Dartmouth by myself as a freshman.

I had always dreamed of traveling while in high school and since that initial adventure to Hanover have traveled all over the world. Photography has been a way to chronicle my travels and experiences. The photos serve not only as a historical memory of the event, but also evoke a certain emotion of the moment in the same way that a song can. For example whenever I see a photo of the Green at night with the 30-foot tall lighted Christmas tree in the center and smaller Christmas trees lining the streets bordering the Green, I think back to those early December days of walking through the Green back to my dorm after a night of study and longing for finals to be over and being free to enjoy the holidays. The same photo can also trigger an emotion in the viewer that is different from mine based upon one's own experiences. Those days and feelings won't be felt by today's students as they are gone from the campus by Thanksgiving.

My selection of photos shares my experiences at home in Hawaii, the continental US and Southeast Asia and carry a unique emotional meaning for me. The surprise of a spectacular orange sunset arouses a feeling of reassurance after a rather harrowing drive through a South Dakota thunderstorm. The joyful faces of two Cambodian boys posing for me, the foreigner, brings a smile to my face. The reflection of a chapel steeple and the shadow of a photographer in melted snow remind me of a Christmas card. A peaceful evening sunset over Pearl Harbor is such a contrast to what happened there over 75 years' ago. The lamps in the Hanover Inn lobby evoke the warmth of home. Photos are alive with memories and emotions.